

# THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

MAY 1997 NEWSLETTER

## Next Meeting - Our Monthly Musicale

Monday, May 5 at 7:30 pm at Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028 Free - Everyone welcome!

Presentation of Society Scholarship Award to Catherine & Gui Jaroschy

Music from *Yeomen* and more!

A piano selection by Catherine Jaroschy

Come & Enjoy the fun  
Bring munchies!

Save the date **Monday, June 2**, the last Musicale of the season.

## Inside

Names of our Society Members  
International G&S Festival in Philadelphia  
Account of our April Musicale  
Message from your President

## Opening Night Gala *Yeomen of the Guard*

Last chance to reserve seats for the Friday, June 20 Opening Night performance followed by the traditional champagne buffet reception with the cast. Simply mail a check to our office (use the form inside this newsletter) and guarantee the very best seats before they are sold to the general public.

## Frank Delvy is Jack Point

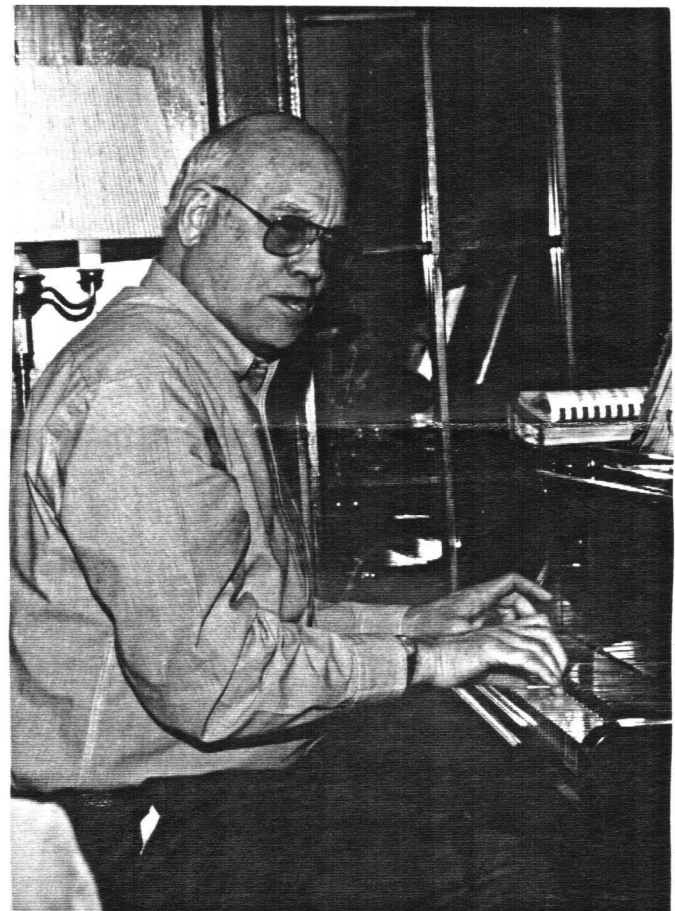
## Cynthia Hill is Elsie

We are pleased to announce that our Frank Delvy has been cast in the demanding role of Jack Point in *Yeomen of the Guard*. Frank has played important roles in most of our productions the past 10 years or so.

Cynthia Hill was the alternative Mabel in our recent production of *The Pirates of Penzance*.

At the time of this writing, other principal parts have not been cast. We will publish the names in the June newsletter.

Special Thanks to Southwestern Bell, Larry Peel Builder/Developer and those individuals who contributed to the special fund drive for our *Yeomen*: Deacon Crain, Trudy Tommerraasen, and Patricia Lane. Please make your donation and help defray the cost of this very expensive production.



Right: Russell Gregory - Savoyard member, Pirate King, and Mikado - entertains at a recent monthly Musicale.

## Last Meeting and Musicale

On Monday, April 7, 1997 at 7:30 pm, 28 people gathered at Pearl's. Present were members Pearl Amster, Lucian Chimene, Deacon Crain, Doug & Yvonne DeLay, Frank & Donna Delvy, Len & Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Cathy Jackson, Janette Jones, Chuck Kraus, Allen Lawshae, John Mast, Robert Mellin, Lucy Shoe Meritt, Kay Novak, Bee Harris Polomé, Andrée Sjöberg, Emma Walters, Libby Weed, and Theresa Wilson. Guests were Winston Bode, Bonnie Fielder, Nell Trimble, and Jamie Walker.

President Libby Weed welcomed us, and she said she had come to hear a small part of the program and then would have to leave. Without delay Len Gillman took a seat at the piano and Frank Delvy and Janette Jones sang the duet "To help unhappy commoners" from *Gondoliers*. Frank told us that his first appearance in a society production was in 1983 in *Gondoliers* with Len as Musical Director. Allen Lawshae, Loel Graber, and Reba Gillman were also in that production.

Len introduced "The Elements" as Tom Lehrer set them to the music of the Major General's song from *Pirates*. Len remarked "When I was a lad there were 92 elements. When Tom Lehrer wrote this song there were 102." Tom Lehrer's version ended "These are the only ones of which the news has come to Harvard, And there may be many others, but they haven't been discovered." Len then launched into a rapid fire enumeration which ended with the coda Len had written when the list got up to 109, "and hahnium, lawrencium, and also rutherfordium, and 106,-7,-8, and -9. No more yet, thank the Lordium!" There has been a flood of new elements discovered since. They are named after places, planets, people, and the latest are just numbered. Len then played the simpler Aristotelian version: "There's earth and air, and fire and water."

Robert then made a few announcements. He reported that auditions for *Yeomen* had begun the day before with 20 good prospects showing up. Tuesday more auditions were scheduled, but Robert urged us to think of anyone who might serve as a chorus member, "We need more people, especially men!" He also asked us to say hello to guest Winston Bode who does a five-minute show on the radio every weekday at 12:55 pm, and has done several on our Society. Winston responded by saying, "I wouldn't have made it this far without my patron saint, Deacon Crain."

Robert showed us the audition flyer made for us by Scott McAfee of GSD&M, and asked us to call the Society office (472-4772) with suggestions for prospective singers. He then plunged into a recital of the plot of *Yeomen*. As he came up for air at the end of Act I, he promised to continue with Act II next month. He said we were lucky to have the services of Christina J. Moore, Stage Director; Robert René Galván, Music Director; and Andrea Ariel, Choreographer; and thanked stalwarts Allen Lawshae, Janette Jones, and Frank Delvy for having already auditioned. Finally he urged us to sign up early for the opening night Gala on June 20th, "Send your checks for \$30 a person to the Society office!"

Then, with Len accompanying, the program proceeded with music from *Yeomen*. Janette sang Phoebe's song "Were I the bride" playing off Frank as Shadbolt, the jailer; and Frank sang Jack Point's song "Oh, a private buffoon is a light-hearted loon." Next Frank and Janette performed a scene between Mad Margaret and Despard, which was cut from the original *Ruddigore*, including a song which was never set to music. Frank referred to this as "The lost treasure." It shows us Margaret's hopeless love for Despard, which has led to her madness; the repeated refrain is "And all for the love of a lad."

Len then told us that Tom Lehrer, whom he has known for many years, originally thought of setting the elements to the trio from *Ruddigore*, "My eyes are fully open to my awful situation ... This particularly rapid, unintelligible patter isn't generally heard, and if it is it doesn't matter." Len played the opening of that version to demonstrate how unworkable it would have been. He then passed out some interesting but irrelevant material: copies of the front of an issue of Science News featuring Len said, Janette Jones and Russell Gregory, but really a pose of two men arm wrestling as Ruth and the Pirate King did in our production of *Pirates*; and "because she is so shy and retiring," copies of a campaign flyer showing Reba as a senior citizen balancing on a tight rope. Finally Len passed out copies of the words for "The Elements," complete with suggested chorus lines. As he went through the song again we all joined in on the choruses with enthusiasm.

And now came Trivia Question time and rewards in the form of bread from Texas French Bread. This time Robert offered a prize to each person who posed a question. Allen asked, "Why does the jailer Wilfred Shadbolt, in the finale to Act I of *Yeomen*, commend Phoebe to the loving care of Leonard Meryll?" Jamie Walker asked "How did Gilbert die?" and Len asked "In what key is the opening chorus of *Pinafore*?" Robert took the occasion to thank Texas French Bread for the bread; Larry Peel, Builder for becoming a Corporate Sponsor; and LCRA, who will again contribute the printing of the newsletter.

Frank Delvy brought out his guitar to while away the time until Jess Walters could join us for a song. Frank sang "Sad to say I'm on my way" and "The Draft Rag" by Phil Ochs - the first patter song Frank ever learned, back in his army days. Allen then answered his own question: Shadbolt told Leonard Meryll to keep an eye on his sister Phoebe. Shadbolt didn't know Leonard was really Fairfax in disguise or he would have been much alarmed at the goings on. Allen then sang a capella the wonderful, "She shall not quit thy sight: from morn to afternoon - from afternoon to night ... " Finally Loel played the opening chord and we all stood to sing "Hail Poetry" from *Pirates*, and then moved on to the dining room for refreshments. At that moment Jess arrived, the group reassembled, and Jess sang "When I, good friends, was called to the bar" from *Trial by Jury* with Len at the piano, to end the musical evening with style.

# Members of The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

## Savoyard

Russell Gregory  
Bob Kusnetz

## Pooh-Bah

W.H. Deacon Crain  
Len & Reba Gillman  
Barbara Harris Polome

## Major General

Marion DeFord  
William Gammon III  
Scott McAfee  
Eva Pickerel  
Steven & Louise Weinberg

## Grand Duke

Richard Anderson  
Sue Ricket Caldwell  
William & Greta Curtis  
Steven R. Franden  
Sam & Carol Fredericks  
Sidney W. & Lois Frost  
Austen H. & Margaret Furse  
James Alfred Hitt  
Bob & Cynthia Hormell  
Edward O. Kluth  
M.D. Levy, Jr., M.D.  
William & Esther McCormick  
Reuben R. McDaniel  
Lucy Shoe Meritt  
Mary D. Metz  
Robert L. Miller  
Mrs. Fred Neff  
Dr. & Mrs. Blair Protzman  
James V. Robinson  
P.J. Roy  
Pam Sabrin  
Eileen Sullivan  
Carey & Louise Thompson  
Pat Wedel  
Libby & Michael Weed  
Stephan Windsor  
Dean & Darlyene Yarian

## Lord High Patron

Byron T. & Sophia Arnason  
Mr. & Mrs. John Bencivenga  
Bill & Virginia Binger  
Russell Cochran  
Mary Ann Courter  
George & Barbara Douglas  
Gina DuCloux  
M. Patton Echols Jr.  
Al & Celeste Evans  
Bill Flynn  
William Garner Jr. & Rosemary Garner  
Ronald & Louise Geil  
Kenneth Gentle  
Loel Graber  
Kate Hendricks  
Dudley Houghton  
Dan Jacobson  
George L. John, M.D.  
Jim & Dorothy Kellogg  
Mary Hobart Key  
Stephen Kubenka  
Steve & Linda Laden

Susan Lubin  
Col. George S. McQueen & Mrs.  
Nancy McQueen  
James S. Moore  
Mary & Edward Munzer  
Russell Prickett  
Charles & Diane Radin  
Mr. & Mrs. M.A. Saad  
William Schwarzer  
Robert & Martha Spiegel  
Bernadette Tasher  
Robert & Catherine Tull  
Gloria & James Waelchli  
Jess & Emma Walters  
Donald Wertz  
John & Eve Williams  
John F. Yeaman  
Richard M. & Kimberly Yerly

## Patron

Tom Ashbaugh  
E. Wayne Bachus  
Mary Lu Barras  
Sally Bartkowiak  
Robert Bernstein, M.D.  
Richard Boner & Susan Pryor  
Sylvia Bonnell  
Christopher J.L. Bugge  
Jane Bullard  
Allise Burris  
Dr. Karl Butzer & Elisabeth Butzer  
Thad Bynum  
Alistair Campbell-Dick  
David Collier & Karen Evans  
Collier  
Yvonne & Doug DeLay  
Fred & Judy Donaldson  
Mr. & Mrs. John H.G. Eason  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Eckols  
Wally & Ruth Ellinger  
Harry & Shirley Ellison  
Hugh Forrest  
John Foshee  
Harold Gilbert  
Doug, Sheila, & Topher Glenn  
Sue Gordon  
Larry & Kay Greenhaw  
John & Carolyn Gregory  
Cindy Hager  
Brian & Diane Haight  
William P. & Naomi Haight  
Maxine Hairston & David Cooper  
Enid Hallock  
Bill Hatcher  
Howard Hayden  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Howe  
Caatherine Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Johnson  
Robert S. & Helen Jones  
Michael & Alice Kuhn  
Patricia Lane  
Dr. Peter Langlois  
Allen Lawshae  
Victoria LeBlanc  
Carla Lederman  
Dale F. Lipsett & Linda J. Creel  
Frances Lockhart  
Michael Lucus  
Robert Mellin

Jon Montgomery  
Gordon & Betty Moore  
Charles & Helen Morton  
Gary Preuss  
Bill & Susie Reid  
Al & Judy Rellstab  
Ken & Mary Riordon  
Eugene & Elizabeth Ripperger  
Janita Robbins  
Pat Roeder  
Larry Shepley  
Katharine Shields  
Diane Simpson  
Dan Smith  
Leland L. Smith  
Linnea B. Smith  
David Stinchcomb  
Virginia Storey  
Trudy Tommeraasen  
Mary C. Turbiville  
Paula Tyler  
Kelly Wagner & Steve Harsch  
Tasha Waring  
Darrel & Donna Webber  
Dr. Claire Ellen Weinstein  
David A. White  
Theresa Wilson  
Carl & Mary Woodring  
Dr. Ronald E. Wyllys  
Jean Wyllys

## Member

Vaughn Alexander  
Pearl Amster  
Mary Ann Anamosa  
Wren Andersen  
Marilyn A. Babcock  
David Beer  
Larry & Irene Black  
Madeline Blaylock  
Dona Brooks  
Tony Burns  
C.J. Carl & Glenda Warren Carl  
Lucian & Vera Chimene  
Nick Chotiros  
Shirley Cohn  
Rebecca Cowgill  
Robert E. Crain  
Frank & Donna Delvy  
George Denny III & Barbara Denny  
Arthur DiBianca  
Rachel Dolan  
Michael Drousche  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Eastwood  
Henry & Norma Fischer  
Jeffrey Fischer  
LaDelle Fuller  
Norma Garza  
Douglas & Kathie George  
Douglass M. Green & Marquita Dubach  
Dalton & Mary Jean Gross  
Susie Grubbs  
Scott Guthery  
Mr. & Mrs. James G. Hall  
David & Carla Hammock  
Mr. & Mrs. Willard M. Hanzlik  
William & Emily Harrison  
Richard Hartley  
Tim & Kristina Havenhill  
Ann Herbert  
April Hines  
Norma Hodge  
Dr. Diane Howard  
Chip Howe  
Martin Hubert  
Earl R. Hunt  
Janette Jones  
Charles E. Kraus  
Larry Kremer  
David & Sue Kyser  
Benard Laves  
Patty Leonard  
Walt & Betty Ligon  
Mr. H. Lujan  
Ralph MacPhail Jr.  
Joseph Malof  
John Mast  
Ruth A. McCully  
Jessie McGrew  
Jack & Irene Moir  
Ms. E. Colleen Moore  
Eliza Morehead  
Mollie Newman  
Kay Novak  
Nancy & John Oliphant  
Maurice Ommerman  
Joan Pearsall  
Bob Pendleton  
Michelle Perris  
Donna Poole  
David Reynolds  
Robert Rudie  
Rosemary Russell-Vines  
Paul Shapiro  
Bob Sharron  
Marcy & Marc Shepherd  
Richard Shield  
Edward Silha  
Arthur Silver  
Andree Sjoberg  
Elizabeth Smith  
Kent & Marion Smith  
Michael Starbird  
Isobel Stevenson  
Stanton Taylor  
Charles Thomas  
Constance Thompson  
Andrew Thomson & Michele Chan-Thomson  
Lisa Tolman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Arthur Tolman  
Delia Jaquez Trejo  
Joel & Carolyn Treybig  
William R. Trutna  
Mrs. Dale Tucker  
Bob Wall  
Ernie Welch  
Glenn Williams  
Roxanne Kuter Williamson  
Arthur R. Woods  
Deborah Zallen  
Juan Zalles  
Clifford Zirkel  
Martha Ann Zivley

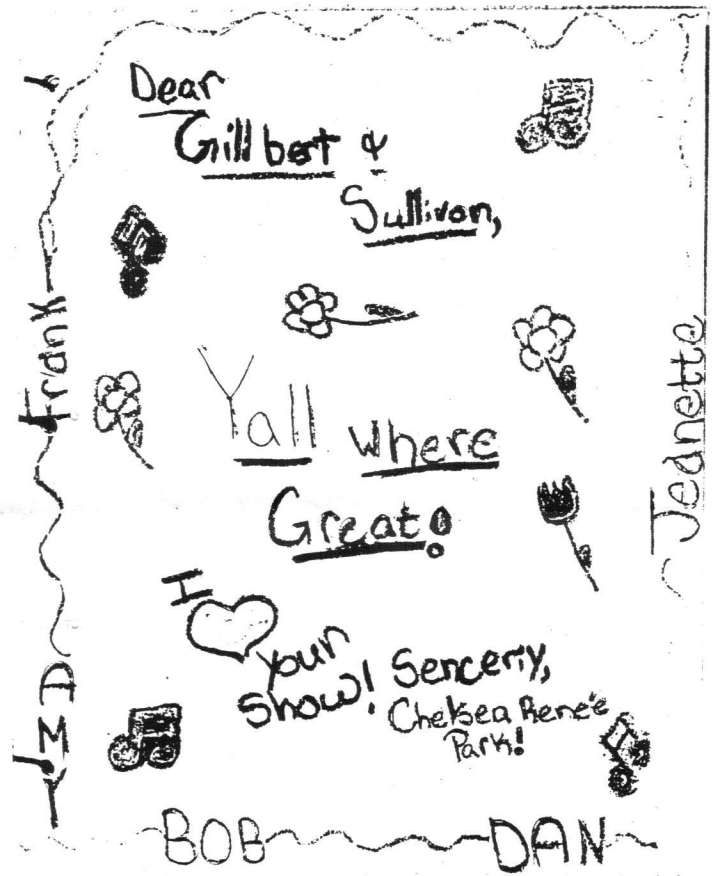
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## Gilbert & Sullivan In-School Program

The G&S Society has re-focused the educational aspect of our Society's mission in 1997 with our In-School musical programs. This season we visited the following schools: Brooke Elementary, Martin Middle School, Covington Middle School, Govalle Elementary, O'Henry Middle School, St. Theresa's, Johnston High School, Zavala Elementary, and Sanchez Elementary. We plan to visit more. The programs have proved to be a popular success with the students, teachers, and administrators.

The shows have usually consisted of our star performers from past stage productions, Frank Delvy, Baritone; Janette Jones, Mezzo; Dan Girardot, Tenor; and Amy Baker Stintson, Soprano. The selections they perform from the Gilbert & Sullivan repertory are songs that seem to have a special appeal to children; "I am a Pirate King," "Cheerily carols the lark," and "I shipped, d'ye see" get a good response. When Amy does the trills in "Poor wandering one," the response is profound. Oooohs, aaahhs, and giggles are standard reactions; the kids look at one another in amazement because most of them are hearing music like this for the very first time. That is why we do the In-School programs. No, they probably will not become opera buffs overnight, but the next time they hear music of this caliber it may not be such a shock. Eventually they may even learn to truly appreciate it and who knows what might happen afterwards.

Of course, much of the success of the In-School concerts is due to the artistry of our performers. They are tried and true professional singers and actors



who know just what to do with an audience, whether young people or old. Bob Wall is the reliable piano accompanist. These artists are paid for their services too. In fact, we are seeking funding to help us with the cost of these performances. Your contributions are naturally invited.

Yes, it has been a good season for Gilbert & Sullivan education, and we look forward to an expanded program in the near future.

Above Right: This is just one of the many letters we receive from students who appreciate the wonderful music of Gilbert & Sullivan.

Right: Have you ever seen a more delightful group of fairies tripping hither and thither?





## The Gilbert & Sullivan Society

Since 1976 we have been dedicated to teaching the joys of the good music of Gilbert & Sullivan through performances and school & child related programs.

### ❖ Executive Board ❖

President	Libby Weed	837-5441
Executive V.P.	Paula Tyler	459-4639
Production V.P.	Chris Bugge	834-7766 (w)
Publicity V.P.	Edward O. Kluth	476-6209
Secretary	Reba Gillman	327-2277
Treasurer	Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Hist. & Parl.	Larry Shepley	327-1511
Dir. at large	Robert Mellin	345-5950

### Staff

Executive Director	Robert Mellin
Office Manager	Martin Bimler

### Wish List

#### A Volunteer Costume Mistress

To help organize costumes all year round; our small Concert Group performances need Victorian costumes

#### Volunteer Office Workers

To help with the bulk mailing and other chores

#### Laser Printer, TV, VCR

Call 472-4772

## Festival in Philadelphia

### ☆ Message from your President ☆

Summer is on the horizon, and thoughts of a delightful, get-away-from-it-all vacation beckon. What about a jaunt to a city a bit cooler than Austin? Perhaps you'd enjoy a change of scenery and some different and intriguing cultural events.

Have I got an idea for you! The fourth annual international Gilbert & Sullivan Festival will be held in Philadelphia July 18 to 27, 1997. Our Executive Director, Robert Mellin, is planning to attend, and two or three board members have indicated (some rather wistfully) an interest in joining the trek and enjoying the plethora of productions by various companies. Some of the operas to be presented are *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *Mikado*, *H M S Pinafore*, *Cox and Box*, *Trial by Jury*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Can you imagine feasting on such a fare while getting to know G & S folk from around the world and skipping out on one of the hottest weeks of the year in Austin?

As we discussed this event at our recent board meeting, we agreed that it would be a marvelous thing for the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin to be represented at this year's festival by a group of faithful members. How about being one of such a group? If you have even a shred of interest, or if you would like to learn more about the festival, call me at my home, Robert at the office, or Reba at her home. We'd like to see what kind of group we might get together. But hurry -- airline reservations would need to be made very soon.

Plan now to join us at Pearl's for our musicale on May 5. Robert is putting together a great program!

\*\*\*\*\* Libby Weed \*\*\*\*\*


## Use this form in 3 ways!!!

1. Become a Society Member  
Or Renew Your Membership

2. Make a Special Donation  
for *Yeomen*

3. Reserve the Very Best Seats  
For the Opening Night Gala of  
*Yeomen*

### Membership

-  ☐ Savoyard \$1000      ☐ Pooh-Bah \$500 - \$999      ☐ Major General \$250 - \$499
- ☐ Grand Duke \$100 - \$249      ☐ Lord High Patron \$50 - \$99      ☐ Patron \$25 - \$49
- ☐ Member \$10      ☐ I prefer to keep my identity anonymous      ☐ I do not wish to receive the newsletter

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ 

Do you work for a company that matches contributions? Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed for: Dues \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Gala \_\_\_\_\_

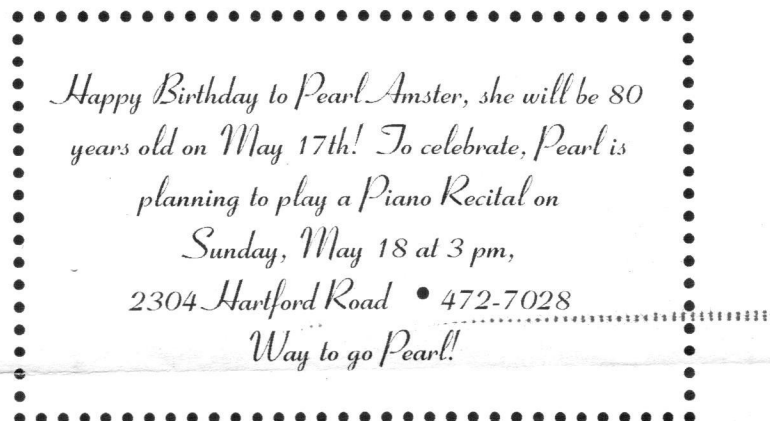
Make checks payable to Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

## THE **New** LOOK X

This newsletter was laid out on the Society office computer by our capable new office manager, Martin Bimler. We're still learning, but if you have any suggestions or reactions please let us hear them.

### Society Music Scholarship Awarded to Catherine & Gui Jaroschy

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society has determined that the recipients of our music scholarship will be sister and brother, Catherine and Guillaume Jaroschy. This award is an acknowledgment of their musical achievements and a modest gesture of encouragement to reach for higher levels of artistry. Catherine has been studying piano with Pearl Amster for the past 4 years. On April 20 she participated in a recital of Pearl's students. St. Edward's University has awarded top student, Catherine, a handsome scholarship enabling her to enter as a Freshman in the Liberal Arts program. Her younger brother, Gui, also an excellent student, attends St. Stephen's Episcopal School on scholarship. His instrument is the trumpet. Six years ago he performed in a musical drama with our Executive Director, Robert Mellin, at the Capitol City Playhouse. This legendary and popular theater, that is no more, was founded and directed by the late Michel Jaroschy, father of Catherine and Gui. He was always a very good friend of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin; therefore, it is a double pleasure to be able to award this scholarship to his children.



### First Time!

Services for the visually impaired will be provided for *Yeomen of the Guard*. For the first time in a Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin production, a discription of the show will be broadcast on closed circuit headphones. There is no extra charge for this service. For more information regarding show dates this service will be provided, call Access Austin Arts at 454-9912.

### Church, School, and other Organizations ...

Group Discounts are available for *Yeomen of the Guard*. For more information, call the Society office at 472-4772.

Reba Gillman, Editor

Martin Bimler, Layout

THE  
**GILBERT  
&  
SULLIVAN**  
SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Come to our Musicale  
Monday, May 5 At Pearl Amster's

2026 GUADALUPE STREET, SUITE 309 \* AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

